

## County of Los Angeles Military and Veterans Affairs 1816 S. Figueroa Street Los Angeles, California 90015 877- 4 - LAVETS mva.lacounty.gov



May 11, 2016

Mr. Carlos Benavides, President Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, B50 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, Ca 90012

Dear President Benavides,

The following is in response to your request dated October 20, 2015 to further summarize our presentation to the Commission on August 19, 2015 on accessibility programs at Bob Hope Patriotic Hall and Section 8 housing vouchers to our veterans.

In summary, Bob Hope Patriotic Hall was built in 1925 and renovated in 2013 to address general improvements to include Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility to the parking lot, walkways, entrance to facility, common areas, signage, restrooms, elevator cabs, reception area, drinking fountains and emergency evacuation alert system.

Furthermore, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs provided and continues to provide the following onsite services in collaboration with other in-house non-profit veteran services organizations.

- Assisted nearly 45,000 veterans in filing 118,000 claims with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs from 2005 to 2014;
- Provides integrated programs and services relating to employment, career development opportunities, child support services, intervention/prevention mental health services, temporary housing and emergency support, pro bono legal services, financial empowerment, and homeless medical clinic; and
- During FY 2014-15, our department assisted a total of 260 veterans with the Section 8 Housing Voucher application process in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Housing Authority. As a result, 48% of the applicants were approved; 35% denied; and 17% were pending review by the Housing Authority.

In terms of the use of Bob Hope Patriotic Hall, our department hosted over 600 veteran-related events during 2014 in partnership with numerous non-profit veteran organizations, government agencies and County departments with an estimated annual foot traffic of 42,000 people.

Should you have any questions on any of the above information, please feel free to contact me at <u>igomezbeltran@mva.lacounty.gov</u> or at (213)765-9227.

Sincerely,

Jaime Gomez-Beltran, Building Manager

JGB/



## Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, B50
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Celebrating 40 Years of Leadership & Advocacy



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October 20, 2015

Jaime Gomez-Beltran, Building Manager Bob Hope Patriotic Hall Military and Veterans Affairs Los Angeles County 1816 South Figueroa Street Los Angeles, CA 90015

Dear Mr. Gomez-Beltran:

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities, I would like thank you for your presentation to the Commission on August 19, 2015. The information you provided describing the Military and Veterans Affairs and the services for the disabled was very informative. I commend you for the work you are doing to promote fairness in accessibility and addressing the functional needs of the disabled residing in Los Angeles County.

The Commission also respectfully requests a summary of your presentation especially Section 8 housing vouchers to be submitted at your earliest convenience.

Again, thank you and the Commission wishes the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs much success. If our Commission could be of assistance to you, please don't hesitate to contact us at (213) 974-1053 or <a href="mailto:laccod@bos.laccounty.gov">laccod@bos.laccounty.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Carlos Benavides, President Commission on Disabilities

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